



UNITED WAY OF SOUTHEAST IOWA
a century of service

218 N 3rd St, Ste 217, Burlington, IA 52601
www.unitedwayseia.org
office@unitedwayseia.org
319-752-7831

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

United Way of Southeast Iowa Awarded Ride United: Last Mile Delivery Grant to Address Food Insecurity in the Community

The United Way of Southeast Iowa is pleased to announce that it has been awarded the Ride United: Last Mile Delivery (RULMD) Grant, totaling \$8,560, to support efforts to address food insecurity in the community. This grant will cover the cost of over 1,500 deliveries over the course of the next year, providing essential food items to individuals and families in need. This innovative grant utilizes DoorDash to make deliveries, providing essential food items directly to individuals and families in need, while also creating economic opportunities for community members to earn income as delivery drivers via the DoorDash app.


Ride United Last Mile Delivery was designed to fill the critical "last-mile" gap to accessing nutritious food and essential resources for clients who lack transportation. In partnership with DoorDash, Dashers make deliveries directly to households, meeting the needs of all family members. The RULMD Grant is part of a national initiative aimed at improving access to food and essential items for vulnerable populations.

United Way of Southeast Iowa was one of 37 United Ways in North America (out of 1,400) to receive this grant and the only one in Iowa, highlighting the organization's commitment to serving its community and addressing critical needs.

"We are thrilled to receive the Ride United: Last Mile Delivery Grant, which will enable us to expand our efforts to combat food insecurity in Southeast Iowa," said Megan Brincks, Executive Director of the United Way of Southeast Iowa. "This program goes beyond traditional food pantry services by providing deliveries outside of normal business hours, breaking down barriers that some working households face in accessing essentials during their work hours. Additionally, it's important to note that the items available for delivery are not limited to food. From school supplies to hygiene products to weather-appropriate clothing, this service addresses a wide range of needs faced by individuals and families in our community."

Through the RULMD program, United Way of Southeast Iowa will partner with DoorDash and local organizations such as food pantries, to coordinate deliveries of essential food items directly to the homes of individuals and families facing food insecurity. This initiative will be available in all 20 zip codes covered by United Way of Southeast Iowa, including Burlington, Mount Pleasant, Mediapolis, New London, Danville, Morning Sun, Wapello, Winfield, and all the smaller communities in between.

"We believe in the power of collaboration and innovation to address community challenges. By partnering with DoorDash, we can leverage technology and community resources to make a meaningful impact on food access and economic opportunities in our region," added Brincks. "This



grant is a testament to the dedication and hard work of our team, as well as the generosity of our donors and supporters who make initiatives like RULMD possible."

United Way of Southeast Iowa is committed to building a stronger, more resilient community where everyone has access to the resources they need to thrive. The organization looks forward to leveraging the RULMD Grant to create positive impacts and drive meaningful change in the lives of those it serves.

For more information about United Way of Southeast Iowa and its programs, please visit www.unitedwayseia.org

For media inquiries, please contact:
Megan Brincks
Executive Director
United Way of Southeast Iowa
Email: megan.brincks@unitedwayseia.org
Phone: 319-752-7831

